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Snow may arrive just in time for spring. 2

Car-free Earth Day is on the horizon. 4





LEADER'S NAME BEHIND **US STUDENT'S JAILING** IN NORTH KOREA

The U.S. student sentenced to 15 years of hard labor by North Korea's supreme court was convicted for trying to steal a banner invoking former North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, state media footage of the trial indicates. The court sentenced the student, Otto Warmbier, on Wednesday for "crimes against the state," North Korean media reported. The United States condemned the punishment as politically motivated and called on North Korea to pardon the University of Virginia student from Wyoming, Ohio, and release him on humanitarian grounds. A White House spokesman said it was "increasingly clear" North Korea sought to use U.S. citizens as pawns to pursue a political agenda. REUTERS

KERRY: ISIS COMMITTED GENOCIDE AGAINST CHRISTIANS, SHI'ITES

The Islamic State militant group has committed genocide against minority Christians and Yazidis as wall as 67 minority against minority Christians and Yazidis as well as Shi'ite Mus-lims, Secretary of State John Kerry said Thursday, a finding that is unlikely to greatly change U.S. policy toward the group. "The fact is that Daesh kills Christians because they are Christians. Yazidis because they are Yazidis. Shi'ites because they are Shi'ites," Kerry said, referring to the group by an Arabic acronym and accusing it of crimes against humanity and of ethnic cleansing. While the genocide finding may make it easier for the United States to argue for greater action against the group, it does not create a legal obligation on the United States to do more. REUTERS

EMBATTLED SEAWORLD TO END BREEDING OF KILLER WHALES

Theme park operator SeaWorld said it will stop breeding killer whales, bowing to years of pressure from animal-rights activists. SeaWorld Entertainment Inc.'s decision came after it pledged in November to replace its signature "Shamu" killer whale shows in San Diego with modified presentations of the animals that focused on conservation. "We don't need all these theatrical 'tricks," SeaWorld President Joel Manby said on a conference call with reporters. Manby said the parks will use birth control to halt reproduction among its killer whales. SeaWorld, which has parks in San Diego; Orlando, Florida; and San Antonio, has 29 killer whales under its care, with only five of them captured in the wild and the rest born in captivity. REUTERS



Winter doesn't want you to store the shovels yet, NICOLAUS CZARNECKI

SNOWSTORM TO STRIKE THE NORTHEAST? SAY IT ISN'T SNOW

For the past two weeks I've been concerned about the possibility of getting nailed with a late season "snow event," right around the arrival of spring this Sunday at 12:30 a.m.

Looks like my concerns may be justified.

March is the most volatile month of the year, as one day you can be basking in summertime temperatures as we did last week and then in the flash of a blooming daffodil you're scrambling for your winter coat ... and perhaps snow shovel.

Computer models have been waffling for the past 10 days, a few giving us a glancing blow with nothing more than a few rain or wet snow showers and others painting a significant late-season snowstorm from Philly to Boston.

The GFS (Global American Model) has been very inconsistent with its eventual outcome. Earlier it did have an intense coastal storm producing heavy snow and rain for most of the Northeast. Then of late it backed off big-time with just a glancing



blow and more of an impact for Boston.

The European model, which in my opinion is still the reigning king in handling potential East Coast storms, has been the steadiest in suggesting a significant to major snow storm for the Northeast, complete with wind-driven heavy wet snows and coastal flooding. I would anticipate that eventually the GFS will see the light, ahhh make that snow, and line up more closely with the euro.

How the storm may shape up

A developing storm that will start to intensify off the Carolina coastline by Saturday night.

Cold air will be funneled down from Hudson's bay in Canada and the rapid cooling will take place across the entire Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region by this weekend. I would

expect rapid intensification to take place somewhere off the Virginia coast by late Saturday night and then to move steadily up the coast, passing east of the Jersey Shore by later Sunday and off the New England coast first thing Monday morning.

What to expect

A mix of rain and snow should arrive by Saturday evening in Philadelphia and then spread Northward into New York City by late Saturday night and then on into Boston region by early Sunday morning.

Any mixture will change to all snow along the entire I-95 corridor during Saturday night and into Sunday. Snow will accumulate, perhaps quite rapidly overnight Saturday into Sunday morning, for Philadelphia and the NYC region, especially Long Island.

Boston's main impact from the storm should take place Sunday into late Sunday night.

Coastal flooding likely for all coastal locations from the Jersey Shore to the Capes.

Here's the snow

accumulations if the storm reaches its full potential, and it's still a big "if" at this time.

New York City: 3-5 inches, with 4-plus amounts across central and eastern Long Island as long as mixing is limited. Ending Sunday evening.

Boston: 4-8 inches, ending by early Monday morning, under 4 inches along the Capes as mixing and temperatures should remain a notch or two above freezing.

Philadelphia: 4-8 inches, with the best chance just northwest of the I-95 corridor. Ending late Sunday.

Timing

Timing of the storm and its associated snow/ sleet/rain still needs to be worked out, although it should be snowing in both Philadelphia and NYC sometime on Saturday night.

Bust forecast potential: HIGH as it is March and still uncertainties with track and intensity at this time.

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Car-free day not a carefree one

Citywide car-free day in New York City is a "great idea" but requires planning, an expert says.



For the city that never sleeps, going a full day without cars on the road may seem like an out-of-this-world plan, but according to one transportation expert, the idea is possible — it just needs a little more planning.

On Wednesday, Councilman and Transportation Committee Chair Ydanis Rodriguez announced the launch of the first Car Free NYC to be held on Earth Day, according to the New York Daily News.

Cars will not be allowed on the streets on April 22 in three Manhattan areas including from the Flatiron Building at East 23rd Street to Union Square at East 17th Street; around Washington Square Park; and in Washington Heights on Wadsworth Avenue from 173rd to 177th streets, the Daily News reported.

Although only streets in Manhattan will be closed off to car traffic, Rodriguez added that he encourages all New Yorkers for that one day to leave "I think you really need to study how to satisfy quieting the streets as much as you can and at the same time making it possible for people to [get around]." Paaswell



Light traffic moves along the Flatiron Building. GETTY IMAGES

their cars and opt for public transportation, riding a bicycle or taking a walk.

"This is something we can and should commit to, to drive home the cost of our overreliance on cars in New York City," Rodriguez said, according to the Daily News.

Overall, the plan is for the car-free day to expand citywide. Also on Earth Day, the Daily News reported, other transportation companies will encourage New Yorkers to be car-free. For example, Citi Bike will offer a free 24-hour pass to anyone who signs up on April 22.

For Robert Paaswell, distinguished professor of civil engineering at CUNY City College, a car free day is a great idea for helping quiet down the streets of New York City. However, in order to get the rest of the boroughs to participate, he suggests more planning to get everyone on the same page.

"New York is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week city. You still need people to be able to get to work," Paaswell said. "It's a great experiment to try to help to quiet down the city. Car quieting is great because it relieves a lot of tensions on the streets."

He added that he suggests officials gather with borough presidents and putting together a task force of engineers, planners and citizens to examine specific boroughs and neighborhoods.

Certain boroughs should have car-free days so the city can learn how each neighborhood responds and which need additional transportation options.

"I think you really need to study how to satisfy quieting the streets as much as you can and at the same time making it possible for people to [get around]," Paaswell said.

The professor also said that in order for a car-free day to fully function in the city, there also needs to be a good transit capacity and the transit system has to be fully funded in order to support large numbers of riders.

He added that there also should be added bus services to areas in the city that do not have access to subways and also let New Yorkers be aware of what is going on in their neighborhoods.

And although it is going to take a while for a citywide car-free day to occur, Paaswell said that New Yorkers should be open to the idea of the one day of the year where streets would be quiet.

"Everyone wants to go to Europe, and they like to wander the streets that are car free," Paaswell said. "There is nothing that keeps us from creating that environment here. We're not saying give it up for the rest of your lives. It's a day."

St. Patrick's parade turns Fifth into sea of green



Parade goers pose on Fifth Avenue during the 255th St Patrick's Day parade on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

BRIEF

Mother of drowned Brooklyn toddler allegedly used water submersion as punishment

The Sunset Park mother of 2-yearold Melody Pheng, who drowned on Sunday, allegedly used water submersion as punishment and admitted to drowning her daughter.

According to prosecutors, Lin Li, 24, said that she put the toddler in a container filled with water before submerging the child's head until she was unresponsive, DNAinfo reported.

Li allegedly used water submersion as a form of punishment for Melody and her brother, sources said to the New York Daily News in a related article, which added that Li told authorities she was angry with her daughter for urinating on herself.

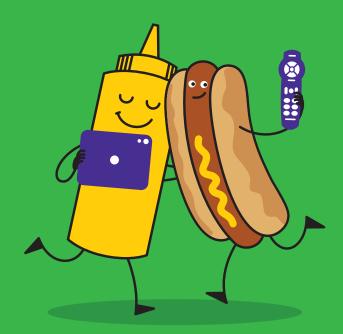
Bruises on Zheng's brother's neck led detectives to suspect that Zheng could have been abused before she died, the Daily News added

When Zheng was found unconscious by authorities on Sunday shortly before 8:30 p.m., police told DNAinfo that her father was attempting to perform CPR on her.

Zheng was taken to a hospital and pronounced dead a short time later, according to the Daily News.

Li, who was arraigned on Wednesday, faces charges of second-degree murder, first-degree manslaughter and endangering the welfare of a child, DNAinfo stated, adding that her husband has not been charged. Li is being held without bail, the Daily News added. JASON NUCKOUS

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US probes lead levels at NYC public housing

Public attention over lead poisoning has grown in the wake of the water contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan.

The U.S. Justice Department said on Wednesday it has opened a civil investigation into the health and safety conditions in New York City's public housing and the extent residents have elevated blood-lead levels.

In a court filing, the office of Manhattan U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara asked a federal judge to direct the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to produce information in rea civil investigative demand.

The filing said the investigation was also looking at whether

York City

Housing

(NYCHA)

New

the

Authority DEVELOPMENTS CITYWIDE Public at-

had made false claims to the U.S. government related to conditions in its public housing.

Nick Paolucci, spokesman for the city's law department, said the Department of Health is cooperating in the inves-

woman for NYCHA had no immediate PUBLIC HOUSING comment.

Lead is a toxic agent that damcan age the nervous system. tention

over lead poisoning has grown in the wake of the water contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan.

More than 400,000 people reside in the New York City Housing Authority's 328 public housing developments, according to its website.



Students walk down a street near public housing, BESS ADLER

The court filing on Wednesday by Bharara's office related to an investigation into possible violations of the False Claims Act.

investigation, The which dated back to at least November, has also looked at the city's Department of Homeless Services, according to

Beyond information about people with elevated blood-lead levels in NYCHA public housing, Bharara's office has sought "documents re-flecting complaints of unsafe, unsanitary, or unhealthful conditions," the filing said.

Some of the records sought include notification letters and leadbased paint evaluation results, according to the filing.

The health department has agreed to pro-duce the information but required a court order to legally do so, lawyers in Bharara's office wrote in a letter seeking an order from U.S. District Judge Deborah Batts. REUTERS

Weekend Marie Marze **Transit Changes 6** South Ferry-bound (A) Trains run vis the Fin Astoria-bound trains trains skip Christoper. both directions between run express from 59th St Houston, Canal and W 4th St and Jay to Atlantic Av-Barclays Franklin Sts St-MetroTech Trains make local stops Flatbush Av-bound Service is extended to in both directions at trains skip Christopher. Ditmars Blvd Houston, Canal, and

Franklin Sts Bervice is extended to New Lots Av

No trains between Bowling Creen and Utica/New Lots Ave

No trains running

No trains between Queensboro Plaza and

Times Sq-42nd St Queensboro Plaza-bound trains skip (Coney Island-bound 89th 52nd 46th 40th. and 33rd Sts.

163rd, 155th, and 135th

Trains make local stops in both directions at 23rd and 50th Sts

Trains run via the Fin both directions between W 4th St and Jay St-MetroTech

No trains between 145th and 168th Sta

(B) Trains stop at 135th St in both directions

trains skip 4th Av-9th St. 15th St-Prospect Park and Fort Hamilton Pkwy



No trains between 14th

St-Union Sq and 8th Av

and more, updated each weekend in Mouvit. Get there smoothly:

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All NY prescriptions to be electronic by end of the month

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has announced that soon all prescriptions written in the state will be transmitted electronically from the doctor to the pharmacy.

Beginning March 27, called-in or handwritten prescriptions will no longer be allowed in New York as the state expands components of its I-STOP initiative designed to curb medication abuse, the governor's office stated.

"This reform will improve patient safety, reduce the number of fraudulent or stolen prescriptions and help combat prescription drug abuse across New York," Cuomo said in a statement.

In order to comparison shop for the best price, patients can research different pharmacies before asking their doctor to send the prescription to the



You won't have to carry an illegible slip of paper to the pharmacy anymore. FLICKR

preferred one, the governor's office stated.

More than 60,000 doctors already e-prescribe, and the state's Department of Health will continue to allow the registration of certified software to enable e-prescribing, according to the governor's office.

"Digital securities such as e-prescribing and prescription monitoring promote safe and efficient medication administration that both providers and their patients will appreciate," New York State Health Commissioner Howard Zucker was quoted in the release. "These policies demonstrate that DOH's priority is always the safety and well-being of patients."



Planned Service Changes



WEEKEND 11:45 PM Fri to 5 AM Mon Mar 18 – 21

Significant service changes impact the 4 in Brooklyn.

No 4 service between Bowling Green and Utica Av/New Lots Av.

28 trains provide alternate service.

3 trains run to New Lots Av all weekend.

Stay Informed

Call 511 and say "Current Service Status," look for informational posters in stations, or visit **mta.info** - where you can access the latest Planned Service Changes information, use TripPlanner+, and sign up for free email and text alerts.



Privacy concerns over new public Wi-Fi

The New York Civil Liberties Union said the large amount of information retained on the network runs the risk of security breaches or unnecessary NYPD surveillance.



Last month, New Yorkers were given the first taste of what officials called 'ultra-fast" free public Wi-Fi, but one nonprofit organization is raising a few questions on the pri-

vacy of such a network.

The New York Civil

Liberties Union (NYCLU) announced Wednesday several privacy concerns with the city's new public Wi-Fi network LinkNYC, which over the next few years is expected to have a network of over 7,500 kiosks across the five boroughs - replacing almost every payphone.

The kiosks will provide users with 1 gigabit per second speed of bandwidth quality through a new fiber-optic network, making speeds faster than average public Wi-Fi.

And although it is set to connect New Yorkers throughout the city, NYCLU claimed that City-Bridge — the company that runs the LinkNYC kiosks - retains a large amount of information

from users creating what the nonprofit called a "massive database" which runs the risk of security breaches and unnecessary NYPD surveillance.

"New Yorkers' private online activities shouldn't be used to create a massive database that's within the ready grasp of the NYPD," said Donna Lieberman, executive director of the NYCLU. "Free public Wi-Fi can be an invaluable resource for this city, but New Yorkers need to know there are too many strings attached."

According to the organization, users who register for LinkNYC, must agree to allow CityBridge to collect data on what websites they frequent, where and how long they stay on information on a site and links they specifically click on.

The company's privacy policy, NYCLU said, only offers to make "reasonable efforts" to clear out the large amount of "personally identifiable user information" and only if a user has been inactive for 12 months.

In their letter to the mayor, NYCLU calls for clarification of City-Bridge's policy and wants to know if the environmental sensors and cameras on the kiosks will be feeding into any city or NYPD systems.

"Internet access is not a choice, it's a modern-life necessity," said Mariko Hirose, senior staff attorney at the NYCLU. "The city's public Wi-Fi network should set the bar for privacy and security to help ensure that New Yorkers do not have to sacrifice their rights and freedoms to sign online."

At the end of their letter, NYCLU applauded the city's goal of making the Internet more accessible to all, but said the objective should not have residents pay for access with the right to privacy.

However, according to LinkNYC, the cameras at the kiosks are currently inactive and are not de-



A LinkNYC station MAYOR'S OFFICE

signed to feed into any NYPD systems.

According to Jen Hensley, general manager of LinkNYC, the city and CityBridge have a "customer-first privacy policy" and would never sell any user's personal informa-

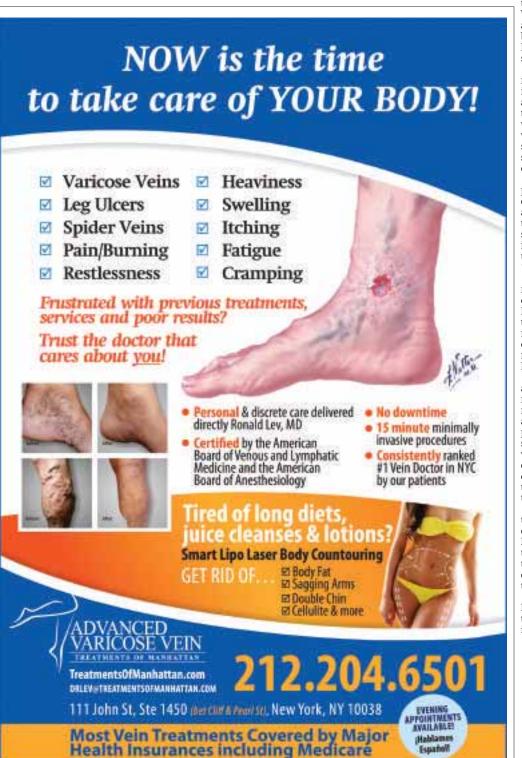
added LinkNYC does not collect or store any data on a person's personal Web browsing on devices.

In order for the NYPD or any other law enforcement agency to obtain information from any of the kiosks CityBridge requires a subpoena or similar law-

ful requests. "New York City and CityBridge have created customer-first privacy protections to ensure our users' personal information stays that way personal," said Natalie Grybauskas, mayoral spokeswoman. "We believe our privacy policy is the best way to protect New Yorkers and LinkNYC users while they safely and securely enjoy free, superfast Wi-Fi across the five boroughs. We will continue to work to ensure legitimate concerns are addressed."

"New Yorkers' private online activities shouldn't be used to create a massive database that's within the ready grasp of the NYPD."

_ Lieberman



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YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY A SETTLEMENT IN THE HANDSCHU CIVIL RIGHTS CLASS ACTION.

PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 23(4) YOU ARE NOTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

BARBARA HANDSCHU, et al., Plaintiffe, against SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION, et al., Defendants.

71 Civ. 2203 (CSH)

BACKGROUND

In 1979, the Court certified a class in this civil rights action ("The Plaintiff Class") defined as follows:

"All individuals resident in the City of New York, and all other persons who are physically present in the City of New York, and all organizations located or operating in the City of New York, who englage in or have eggage in its area to present a result post to a second activities and who, as a result here exhibites have, been, are now or hereafter may be subjected to or threatened by infiltration, physical and vertail countries, photographic, electronic and physical surveillance, prospection of violence, recruitment to act as police informers and dossier collection and dissemination by defendants and their agents."

In 1985, the Court approved a settlement of the action and entered a consent decree incorporating Guidelines governing the investigation of political activity by the New York City Parice Department ("The Handsets Guidelines").

In 2003, the Court approved the motion of the New York City Police Department ("NVPD") for modifications to the Handsche Gaidelines, and subsequently incorporated the modified guidelines governing investigation of political activity by the NVPD in the Consent Decree ("The Modified Handschu Guidelines").

In 2007, the Court ruled that coursel for the Plaintiff Class ("Class Course") are entitled to seek judicial relief when they can demonstrate that the NVPD systematically and repeatedly violated the Modified Handschu Guidelines to a degree sufficient to show an NVPD policy to act in such a fashion or when the NVPD adapts a policy that violates the Modified Handschu Guidelines.

On April 2, 2013, Class Counset brought a Motion For Injunctive Ratief and Appointment of a Monitor, alleging that the MYPD had a policy or practice that violated the Modified Handschu Guidelines in that the MYPD conducts investigations of individuals and organizations associated with the Muslim religion solely on the basis of religion, and without a factory products (the "Handschu Notion").

Defendants have denied the allegations in the Hundschu Motion and have denied any and all flability arising out of the Handschu Motion.

Beginning in August 2014, the Parties in this action and the parties in Mass, et al. v. City of Mr., et al., 13 CV 3448 (PMC) (30)¹, an action filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, entered into a Joint Settlement Process under a strict confidentiality agreement.

The Joint Settlement Process has resulted in further modifications to the Modified Handschu Guidelines, which, if approved by the Court, will settle the claims in the Handschu Motion in the manner and upon the terms summarized and described below.

SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT TERMS, INCLUDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MODIFIED HANDSCHU GUIDELINES

The full text of the proposed Modified Handschu Guidelines, showing the changes that are proposed, can be viewed at http://www.vycbu.org/Handschu-Sattlemant.

- Under the Amended Modified Handsohu Guidelines, there will be an explicit commitment against investigations in which nice, religion or ethnicity is a substantial or motivating factor.
- The Amended Modified Hendeche Guidelines will require that the choice of investigative techniques should take account of the potential effect of the investigation on the political or religious activity of individuals, gauges or organizations and the potential effect on persons who, although not a target of the investigation, are effected by or subject to the perticular investigation to the provinces.
- are affected by or subject to the particular investigative technique.

 The Amended Modified Handschu Guidelines will require that undercover police officers and confidential informants may be used when taking into account oil of the circumstances of the investigation, including the need for the information and the seriousness of the threat, it has been determined that the information acupit could not be reasonably obtained in a timely and effective way by a less intrusive means.
- Under the Amended Modified Handschu Guidelines, there will be presumptive time limits on investigations—before there were none. In addition, each investigation will be reviewed every six months.
- The Deputy Commissioner for Intelligence will continue to make the final decision whether or not an investigation should be opened, continued, or closed, but the Amended Modified Handschu Guidelines will provide for the establishment of a Handschu Committee, thereby institutionalizing and formatizing on existing collaborative decisionmaking process involving many MYPD participants with regard to opening, continuing and closing investigations.
- •The Amended Modified Handschu Guidelines will add to the Handschu Committee a civilian representative, unaffiliated with the Police Department, as a full participant in the collaborative process with regard to the initiation, continuation and closing of investigations.²
- The of-illian representative of the Handschu Committee will be endowed with the power and obligation to monitor compliance with the opening or enternation of investigations under the Modified Handschu Colinians. If the rules are being violated, the of-illian representative will be required to record his or her objection in the minutes of the Handschu Committee. The civilian representative will be required to contact the Police Commissioner and to socure from the Commissioner in review of the opening or extension of an investigation for compliance with the Modified Handschu Guidelines. In addition, in the event that the civilian representative concludes that the NYPD is violating the Modified Handschu Guidelines, as a matter of policy, he or she will be required to notify the Handschu Court of the violative policies and, with notice to class courset, to seek judicial intervention.
- In addition to these changes to the Modified Handschu Guidelines, the NYFD will remove from its website the report ontitled (fudicalization in the Wost,
- If the settlement is approved by the Court, the City of New York has agreed to pay Plaintiff Class Counsel the sum of \$365,730,26 in full setisfaction of all claims for costs, expenses and attorneys' less in connection with the Handson's Motion.

THE SETTLEMENT HEARING

- A. Before the settlement can become final, it must be approved by the Court. Any affected person or organization may comment for or against the proposed settlement.
- 8. In order to give class members an opportunity to supress their comments in support or objection to the settlement, a hearing will be held before the Hon. Charles S. Haight, Jr., at the courthwase, 900 Poorl Street, New York, NY 20007 on April 25, 2016 at 30 a.m.
- C. If you wish to comment for or opainst the settlement, you must register to comment by sending an email with your name and address to handschusetthement@mail.com; or by sending a letter with your name and address to Handschu Settlement, Clerk's Office. US District Court, 500 Pearl Street, NY, NY 10007, All omails and letters must be sent or postmarked on or before April 5, 2016. You may include the substance of your comment or objection in the email or the letter, but you are not required to do so. Objections or comments will not be considered by the court unless you have given notice by email or by Shall that you want to comment a skiper. You may present you present over comments you have given notice by an attorney greatert over the remail or the settlement.
- D. This settlement, if approved by the Court, will be a full and final adjudication of the issues reised on behalf of the plaintiff class in the Handachu Mobice and of any and all claims of violation of the Modified Handachu Guidelines that were known to plaintiff class occursed on January 7, 2015.

Dated: New York, N.Y. February 10, 2016

/s/Charles S. Hoight, Jr. Hon, Charles S. Haight, Jr. Senior United States District Audite

³The complaint in Raza alleged that Defendants have violated, and continue to violate the First and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the Raza plaintiffs in that the NYPD's intelligence Bureau has a policy or practice of investigating individuals and conducting surveillance unlawfully on the basis of religion. Defendants have denied the ollegations in the Raza conclaint.

³ The civilian representative is appointed for a five-year term and continues thereafter unless the position is abolished or readilised by the Mayor. If the Mayor chooses to abolish this position, Class Counsel must be given 90 days advance notice. The plaintiff class will thus have an apportunity to mobilize popular opposition to the elimination of the civil an representative, if it should ever be proposed. 10 **NEW YORK**

METRO.US WEEKEND, MARCH 18-20, 2016

Gay rights issue resolved, mayor joins in parade

De Blasio took part in the parade up Manhattan's Fifth Avenue for the first time since his election after organizers agreed to allow a second lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender group to march under its own banner.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio ended his twoyear boycott of the annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Thursday, joining in the world's largest celebration of Irish heritage after organizers opened the event up to all openly LGTB marchers.

For years organizers excluded LGBT groups from marching under banners identifying their sexual orientation, drawing the ire of critics who said the policy amounted to discrimination.

This year, the Lavender and Green Alliance, an Irish American LGBT organization, joined the procession along with marchers Out@NBCUniversal, a small LGBT group and affiliate of the parade's television sponsor, which first participated in 2015.

The 255th edition of New York City's parade was expected to draw more than 2 million spectators and 200,000 marchers, including more than 100 bands. This year's event honors the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising, the armed uprising during Easter Week of 1916 that led to Ireland's independence.

George Mitchell, a former U.S. senator who helped negotiate the 1998 Northern Ireland peace accord, led the parade, agreeing to serve as grand marshal after being assured the gay rights dispute was resolved.

Months after de Blasio was elected in 2014, he became the first mayor in more than 20 years to de-



Mayor Bill de Blasio walks in the 255th annual St. Patrick's Day parade along Fifth Avenue in New York City on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

"Ive known so many members of the LGBT community who are Irish; who simply wanted to express their pride."

De Blasi

cline to march in the parade, which traditionally draws many politicians eager to win over the city's large Irish-Catholic population.

Others have also declined invitations due to the gay rights dispute, which led two sponsors, Heineken and Guinness, to drop out. They returned last year after the parade invited the NBC group.

invited the NBC group.

Boston's parade had been involved in a similar dispute but last year opened its ranks to gay marchers.

"It's a big change for us and change at any organization doesn't come easy and takes a long time," said John Lahey, a veteran parade organizer in his first year as board chairman, who is also president of Quinnipiac University in Connecticut.

Lahey said it was uncertain whether more LGBT groups would march in the future. He cited pressure to limit the size of the procession, which can last six hours. The Brehon Law Society, an Irish American lawyers group that previously boycotted in support of gay rights, is the parade's only other new addition. REUTERS



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RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE



Cruz names national security team for presidential campaign

Ted Cruz, Donald Trump's closest Republican rival in the presidential race, named his national security advisers on Thursday, including former staffers of President George W. Bush and members of a think tank that has been called an anti-Muslim "hate group."

Announcing the team in a statement, Cruz said he would reverse what he described as the weakening of the United States in a dangerous world, singling out militant Islamist groups in the Middle East and North Africa as his focus.

"After two terms of a failed Obama-Clinton foreign policy, our allies are confused and frightened, and our enemies are looking for opportunities," his statement read, referring to President Barack Obama and Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton.

Among the most recognizable names on Cruz's list of 23 advisers was Elliott Abrams, who served in both President Ronald Reagan's and Bush's administrations and is a senior fellow at



Ted Cruz **GETTY IMAGES**

the Council on Foreign Relations for Middle Eastern studies.

The list, first reported by Bloomberg View, also included Frank Gaffney, a former official in President Ronald Reagan's administration, and at least two other members of a think tank Gaffney founded, the Center for Security Policy.

The center produces research that drifts far from the academic mainstream, arguing that hundreds of thousands of American Muslims support Islamist violence in the United States and that there is

a conspiracy to erode the U.S. legal system by elevating sharia, the Islamic legal code, in the country.

Support from Grahm

Former Republican presidential candidate Senator Lindsey Graham is throwing his support behind Senator Ted Cruz in the race for his party's presidential nomination, multiple media outlets reported on Thursday. CNN said Graham will host a fundraiser in support of the Texas senator and his former rival in the race on Monday.

BRIEF

House Speaker: Contested Republican convention more likely

House Speaker Paul Ryan said on Thursday it is increasingly likely that the Republican Party's presidential nominating convention will be a contested one this summer.

If no candidate can assemble 1,237 Republican delegates by July, the party's presidential nominee for the November election will be chosen by convention delegates in Cleveland, Ohio, in what could be four days of political drama, carried live on national television.

Republican front-runner Donald Trump warned on Wednesday of "riots" if he is denied the party's presidential nomination, after he scored big wins in primaries in Florida, Illinois and North Carolina on Tuesday. It is uncertain whether Trump can get the 1,237 convention delegates he needs before July.

Ryan denounced Trump's "riots" comment, saying it was unacceptable to even hint at violence. He said he had to study up on the convention process, since he would be chairing the event and wanted to be sure the rule of law prevails.

"Nothing has changed other than the perception that this is more likely to become an open convention than we thought before. So, we're getting our minds around the idea that this could very well become a reality," Ryan said.

As chairman, Ryan will be charged with opening and closing the event, and overseeing the presidential nomination roll call - possibly more than one, if the first is not decisive. He would also be expected to deal with any floor fights on controversial motions that arise.

"I will have to obviously bone up on all the rules and all of those things," Ryan told reporters.

"My goal is ... to be neutral and dispassionate, and to make sure that the rule of law prevails, and to make sure that the delegates make their decision however the rules require them to do that," he said.

13

A scientist described the diversity of landscapes as "astonishing."

The most detailed look at Pluto's surface to date has revealed an unexpected range of mountains, glacial flows, smooth plains and other landscapes, according to studies re-leased on Thursday.

The unprecedented window into the so-called dwarf planet, which or-bits the sun like other planets but is smaller, comes via high-resolution photographs from NASA's New Horizons spacecraft. The interplanetary space probe made the first-ever visit to Pluto and its five moons last July.

Those images, chemical analyses and other data show a complex,

geologically active world billion miles from Earth, with an underground ocean and volcanoes that appear to spew ice, five research papers published in this week's Science journal said.

"It's a pretty wild place geologically," said planetary scientist William McKinnon of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

How the varied terrain came to be remains a mystery for the distant Pluto, which has an average surface temperature of minus 380 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 229 degrees Celsius).

Scientists suspect several processes at work, including vaporization of volatile ices, such as nitrogen, carbon monoxide and methane, into Pluto's cold and unexpectedly compact atmosphere.

Though smaller than Earth's moon, Pluto likely still has enough internal heat from its formation some 4.5 billion years ago to help maintain its most prominent feature, a smooth, 620-mile wide, heart-shaped basin known as Sputnik Planum.

Relatively Relatively young mountains west of Sputnik Planum and mounds to the south are harder to explain. Scientists suspect both rest on blocks of water ice, though how that came to exist on Pluto is unknown.

The studies show that Pluto's primary moon, Charon, had an active life but ran out of naturally occurring radioactive heat in its rocks and froze through about 2 billion years ago. REUTERS

More police officers buying insurance in case of lawsuits

Law enforcement officers in the United States are increasingly buying professional liability insurance policies amid worries they may be sued for their on-duty actions, the Fraternal Order of Police, the biggest U.S. police union, told Reuters.

Between July 2014 and July 2015, the number of members who bought the union's liability insurance jumped 15 percent, according to data from the FOP released this week and shared exclusively with Reuters.

The insurance would help cover legal fees, but would not protect against criminal prosecution.

In previous years, liability insurance purchases grew only between one to three percent, said Jim Pasco, executive director of the FOP, which represents more than 330,000 officers.

The sharp jump comes amid a national debate



Officers make an arrest GETTY IMAGES

over whether law enforcement should be under more surveillance and scrutiny, especially in light of a wave of publicized cases where deadly force was used against unarmed civilians, many of them minorities.

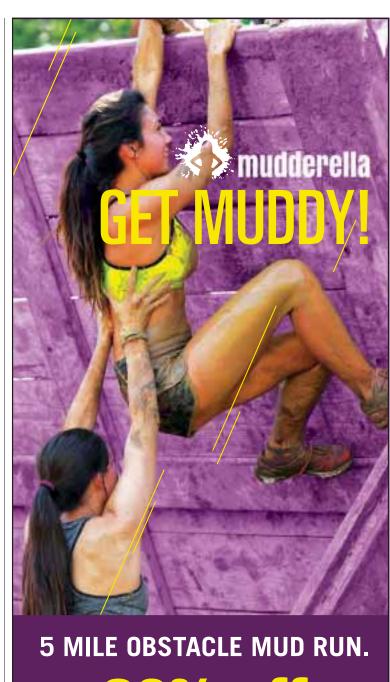
"In an already litigious society, the likelihood of a police officer being sued or charged, often falsely, grows by the day. Officers are increasingly aware of the need to be protected and joining the FOP legal defense plan in growing numbers," said Pasco, whose union sells insurance for \$265 a year.

Civil rights groups such as Black Lives Matter and the Obama administration have called for increased accountability for officers, including the use of body cameras and community oversight.

Still, some in law enforcement, including FBI Director James Comey, have said that the increased scrutiny has made officers feel antagonized and afraid to do their jobs.

"The environment has become increasingly volatile towards law enforcement in general," said Jonathan Adler, a member and past president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, where insurance purchases grew 10 percent last year.

Several high-profile police-involved shootings between July 2014 and July 2015, the period the union studied, led to civil and criminal suits being filed against police. REUTERS



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CAGE FIGHT TIME

Maybe they'll be wrong, but ask 10 political pundits what the matchup will be this fall and nine will say Clinton-Trump. (The 10th one will be napping or drunk, because frankly this political season has been exhausting.) Then ask what that clash of titans will be like, and their bloodshot eyes will blaze: amazing. Jaw-dropping. Like the rematch of Ronda Rousey and Holly Holm.

The tale of the tape is easy. Most think Clinton would be a boxer. Picking her targets with cunning, firing machine gun jabs and counting on money and patience to grind her opponent down. Trump would be the brawler. Throwing roundhouse punches, laughing through even the most furious flurries and instantly wading back in for more.

In terms of classic campaigning, his weaknesses are easily seen. He's never held elected office. He flings out facts



and falsehoods with equal abandon. He can be tripped up, and he is often proven wrong in the headlines.

But lest her supporters grow smug, in this political climate those qualities have also made him a perfect ringer. A shootfrom-the-lip outsider. And she has weaknesses.

Think about it. Trump seems to have every newsroom in America on speed dial, and he appears ready to jump on the air at any moment for a leisurely chat. By contrast, Clinton is extremely cagey. She rarely engages in spontaneous exchanges with the media. That could give him oceans of airtime to build his fame and his following, while she's left just hoping the networks might take her prepared

Trump goes into de-bates like Thunderdome, well aware that they are more about theater than rhetorical finesse. Preparation? Who needs it? Sure, she may develop a carefully considered strategy based on focusgroup tested positions, but how much will that matter when he charges across the stage and takes a chainsaw to her over issues of trust, likeability and transparency?

True, she's got experience over him in a big way. But remember: In this election, experience is being seen as a problem by enormous swaths of voters, something Trump will eagerly point out.

If the race for the White House comes down to these two contenders, those are real issues Clinton will have to engage. Because there is little doubt Trump's plan is simple: Hit any opponent hard, hit often and don't stop hitting until the fight is called.



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Shailene Woodley diverges with 'Allegiant'

The YA star found a new twist on her "Divergent" hero.



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Shailene Woodley is now three movies into her four-film series based on the "Divergent" YA books, with "Allegiant" following her character, Tris, as she further battles corrupt forces. It's an interesting place to be: the end in sight but not quite here. But the ongoing process and massive cast of actors - not just contemporaries like Miles Teller and Ansel Elgort but established greats, including Naomi Watts and Jeff Daniels coming and going

from the franchise has given her some unique experiences. She just never thought, given the dystopian setting, she'd be dressed so well for them.

Of the new cast members, who did you have the most fun working with?

All of them. Jeff Daniels was fun to go toe-to-toe with because he's got that quiet sinister thing going on instead of the in-your-face aggressive. He's more passive, which I find to be more chilling and thrilling. And it was fun to work with Bill [Skarsgard], Andy [Bean] and Nadia [Hilker], to have some more similar people in their 20s join the cast and really just rock their roles and bring

a fun, youthful energy in.

Is it a different atmosphere when everybody is always together on set? That happens quite often in these films, and it can be quite tedious to just walk all day or stand there and not say anything. But luckily we all get along really well and find ways to entertain ourselves though the process.

Like trying to mess up each other takes?

Oh my God, there's so much laughing. I think the crew's fairly fed up with our jokes and our laughter because there's too many times that we roll and have to cut because we're in hysterics. It's so much fun for us, but I think

Clothes make the person

Not to get too superficial, but your wardrobe goes through a distinct change in this installment.

I know, it's so interesting. It was so weird to put a dress and heels on and try and understand the dynamics of who she was within the nature of that particular wardrobe.

What do you think she feels the most comfortable wearing? I think Tris feels most comfortable in tactical clothes and her gear, you know, where she knows where all her weaponry is and she knows that she can fight. In a dress you feel quite vulnerable,

everyone else gets a little annoyed. They're especially in heels because you're limited in access to how you can output your energy.

Yet you spend most of this movie in that white dress.

Yeah, it was interesting to be in all the white clothes. And they were quite uncomfortable to wear, so even trying to hold your body a specific way, I didn't feel like Tris, which made it a great challenge to still have to remember who she was.

like, "Let's just go home."







A different kind of Met Look at the pictures of Robert Mapplethorpe

How the Met Breuer expansion will expand your mind.

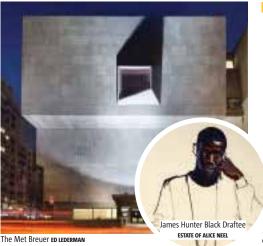


FVA KIS @thisiskis

Today the old Whitney Museum space reopens as the newest outpost of the Met — but the old tenant's focus on modern art will remain. Named for the architect who designed the landmarked building, the Met Breuer (pronounced broy-er) will present 20th century and contemporary art, with the rest of the Met's vast collection serving as context. That could yield the city's most of-themoment museum yet.

The creative process

For its main exhibit, instead of going for populist fare or controversy, the Met Breuer is peering inside the creative process with "Unfinished:



Thoughts Left Invisible," which tackles the question of when a work of art is complete using 197 works spanning the Renaissance to the present. Through September

Off the walls

Just as GIFs and videos are displacing traditional photos as a way to depict life, the Met Breuer is filling its halls with dynamic art as much as the works on its walls. Another of its main "exhibits" is a residency by Grammynominated composer and pianist Vijay Iyer, who will stage "marathon performances." Through March 31

Opening fest

The Met Breuer is opening its doors with three days of special events, including later hours (until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday) interactive dance and musical performances, nine-minute talks by New York City artists tied to "Unfinished," drawing classes and more.

A lens on the world

An entire nation, time or culture can't, and shouldn't, be defined by a small handful of artists. To that end, the Met Breuer is giving India's Nasreen Mohamedi her first retrospective in the U.S. Though fairly little known outside her country, Mohamedi is known for her modernist line drawings that create entire worlds in angles and spaces. Through June 5



The exhibition will open March 18 & 19 MICHAEL RAVENE

Photographer Robert Mapplethorpe saw the same beauty in NYC's gay leather scene as the most delicate of flowers, presenting them both in meticulously crafted blackand-white photographs that sparked a debate over public funding for the arts in the '90s. "Look at the pictures," barked former Sen. Jesse Helms, launching a culture war that still

Those words provided the title of a documentary about the life and work of the 20th century photographer, "Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures,

airing April 4 on HBO. conjunction the film, the network is bringing a pop-up gallery of his work to 23rd Street between Fifth Avenue and Broadway.

The gallery, housed in two shipping containers, will present 24 of Map-plethorpe's "more personal" works, along with audio commentary from the photographer. Its outer walls will also serve as a canvas where another 29 of his photographs will be projected. The installation opens tonight from 6-11 p.m. and Saturday from 6-10 p.m. EVA KIS

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Jennifer Garner probably deserves better than "Miracles from Heaven." sow

"Miracles from Heaven"

Director: Patricia Riggen Stars: Jennifer Garner, Kylie Rogers

Rating: PG

Slipped into multiplexes already clogged with evangelical bait ("Risen," "The Young Messiah," soon "God's Not Dead 2"), "Miracles from Heaven" is a god movie but the kind that boasts studio bucks and actual, real name stars, in this case Jennifer Garner, Queen Latifah and that guy from "The Ring" who was also in "Torque." That doesn't mean it's not as crude and aimless as any amateur cheapie.

The bulk of "Miracles" is a soggy Lifetime movie accidentally projected onto an enormous screen, with Garner as Christy Beam, a nice Texan mom, desperately searching for a cure for her daughter, Anna (Kylie Rogers), who suddenly and

inexplicably comes down with an abdominal disease. Doctors are baffled and Christy's entreaties to the man upstairs — while sitting on her front steps, talking to the sky — seem to be ignored.

They won't be ignored forever, though you have to be patient — which is to say, the miracles, or maybe mere freak occurrences, don't crop up till the final 20. We may wonder till then why it was made at all, especially since Garner has little to do but blow up on careless doctors and sob in front of helpless receptionists. There is one bright spot: Eugenio Derbez, the star of the Mexican hit "Instructions Not Included," plays the overbooked specialist who tends to Anna, sneaking real warmth and humor (plus an ever-present Elmo tie) into a film that too often feels cynically engineered to patronize a niche that's under-represented by mainstream cinema and deserves better than this. MATT PRIGGE

"Midnight Special"

Director: Jeff Nichols Stars: Michael Shannon, Kirsten Dunst Rating: PG-13

A sci-fi film that's also a drama, "Midnight Special" is, on top of that, a rare thinking person's film about faith. That's not to say it's religious; indeed, some of its baddies belong to a rifle-toting cult. Like a band of big, bad government agents, they're after Jaeden Lieberher's Alton, a boy with mysterious superpowers, ranging from hearing radio signals to blowing up satellites to firing off blue lasers a la "X-Men's" Cyclops. His only saviors are his parents (Michael Shannon and Kirsten Dunst), who once gave him to Branch Davidianlike fanatics, and have now "kidnapped" him back.

The road trip that follows is very much in the '80s



Jaeden Lieberher ("St. Vincent") plays a boy with mysterious superpowers in "Midnight Special." BEN ROTHSTEIN

Spielberg vein, particularly John Carpenter's Spielbergian 'Starman." But it's told in the ornery but lyrical voice of director Jeff Nichols, who previously explored family ties and belief in "Take Shelter." Special effects quietly invade its realistic sheen, as the film gently nudges us to read it as a loaded look at how far parents

will go. Shannon and Dunst's characters don't know if their son is a force for good or evil; they'll still kill others or die for him anyway, because that's what parents do.

Viewers have to put their faith in "Midnight Special" themselves: It's a film where key bits of intel are parceled out gradually, including who

people are and what they're doing. When all (or, really, most) of the jigsaw pieces are finally in place, "Midnight Special" almost looks small. Or maybe it's just that it's modest, quietly going about its business of making a brainy and haunting renegade popcorn film that's more than just nifty. MP

METRO.US

"The Divergent Series: Allegiant"

Director: Robert Schwentke Stars: Shailene Woodley, Theo

Rating: PG-13

We know what you're thinking: Are the "Divergent" films the YA franchise where our heroine (Shailene Woodley) is good at archery or has tattoos? (It's tattoos.) Is the rebel leader-turned-villain played by Julianne Moore or Naomi Watts? (It's Watts.) Does Ashley Judd pop up as the dead mother or maybe it was Diane Lane? (It was Judd.) Wasn't Kate Winslet in this once? (She was.)

Building on whatever happened in the last one, the third (but not final) instalment, called "Allegiant," finds the story at the point in the YA template where the good guy



Theo James and Shailene Woodley have to do one more "Divergent film, then they can move on with their lives. MURRAY CLOSE

revolutionaries have turned into bad guy fascists. Woodley's Tris and buds - including her rent-a-stud boo Theo James, a disused Zoe Kravitz and Ansel Elgort as the clumsy nerd — escape from the clutches of Watts' cryptodictator to a secret utopia hidden in the wastelands, ruled by the films' fifth or sixth overqualified great actor, Jeff Daniels. What follows could pass as a YA lampoon, if it had more than a single intentionally funny joke. Committed to a franchise that doesn't underperform enough to be cancelled midstream, the actors look disengaged. During juiceless action scenes, they let

their CGI avatars do the bulk of

the grunt work. It's appropriate that this round features a gas that erases people's memories; surely the makers wish you wouldn't remember all the films it's ripping off. Better yet, if only we could forget a film so shopworn that somehow even the unfailingly, preternaturally warm Woodley actually looks bored. MP



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FIFA Interactive World Cup Final descends on the Big Apple



The best "FIFA 16" player in the world will be crowned next week. GETTY IMAGES

The FIFA Interactive World Cup Final may not give the NCAA Tournament a run for its money next weekend as far as mainstream popularity goes, but the annual contest that pits the world's best video game soccer players against one another is growing each year, just like college basketball's four-weeklong grand finale.

On Sunday March 20, 32 of the best "FIFA 16" players in the world will gather for the opening draw, followed by two days of Xbox One and PlayStation 4 competition to crown the best fake-footballer in the land. The 32 combatants stand out after rigorous contests whittled it down from millions.

"The FIFA Interactive World Cup 2016 season saw 2.3 million people registering for online qualification, Thierry Weil, FIFA's Marketing Director told Metro, "making it the second highest in participation in the tournament history in only half the seasons to previous years."

In New York City, the day after the first and second rounds of NCAA Tournament action wrap up in Brooklyn, Manhattan will be the host for the FIWC Finals.

"The Final Show-down will see the Apollo Theater transformed into a spectacular E-Sports arena," Weil said. "The thrilling two-hour live show, which will also be broadcast live on Fox Sports, will be hosted and analyzed by famous commentators and feature guest ap-

on Fox Sports, will be hosted and analyzed by famous commentators and feature guest appearances from sporting greats. It is certainly not something to miss for "FIFA 16" players and soccer lovers."

The competition began more than a decade ago in 2004 with just eight finalists competing in Zurich, Switzerland. Since then the event has been held in nine different countries.

Last year's champion was Abdulaziz Alshehri from Saudi Arabia and the contest routinely boasts an international champ from a different corner of the globe. The event when it was held in 2010 set a Guinness Book of Records mark for the largest gaming competition in the world and will award a \$20,000 grand prize check to the 2016 victor.

The Final Showdown takes place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22 and will air on FoxSports 1.

Spring training: Mets cut ties with Tejada, Yankees' Castro settles in at second

The Mets and Yankees are pushing forward as their infield's take shape in camp.



Just two days after waiving Ruben Tejada, the Mets officially released the 26-year-old shortstop on Wednesday afternoon. Tejada, a career .255 hitter with an average glove, was due to make \$3 million this season; the Mets will now pay him \$500,000 to not play.

The timing of the move is peculiar, as Asdrubal Cabrera is considered questionable for Opening Day due to a strained left knee, but Mets GM Sandy Alderson quickly defended the decision.

"If we thought Cabrera was out for any extended period of time, it may have changed our thinking," he told reporters on Wednesday, "but this was a move we had to make."

Alderson added, "Con-



Ruben Tejada's exit creates uncertainty on New York's roster. GETTY IMAGES

tracts play a part in every decision we make about a player. But to say this was a controlling factor would not be true."

Mets captain David Wright offered some kind parting words. "Ruben has produced many big hits for us and became an inspiration to this organization and the city during our playoff run last year. I will be rooting for Ruben and he will be missed."

Tejada is now a free agent and can sign with whomever he pleases. The Cardinals were rumored to be pursuing a trade for Tejada, but talks with the Mets did

not bear fruit.

Starlin at second

Starlin Castro is settling in with aplomb at second base; he's currently leading his team in hits with eight, and he's recorded two double-plays with his middle-infield mate Didi Gregorius (who is also tearing it up at the plate with seven hits).

Since the Bombers abandoned their plan to have Castro take reps at third base, he seems to be much more comfortable on the field, per manager Joe Girardi.

"By putting him at second as much as we can, I think it improves the chances of him seeing more and understanding and learning how to play," Girardi said, "He's playing with Didi [Gregorius] and... [Mark Teixeira], and [we] have to get him comfortable where they know each other. It's an important position."

Rob Refsnyder is expected to make the team as the backup third baseman to Chase Headley.

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FANTASY BASEBALL: AVOID ELLSBURY, YELICH, TEHERAN IN THIS YEAR'S DRAFT



Don't expect MVP-type numbers from Jacoby Ellsbury anymore. GETTY IMAGES



As much fun as identifying the next breakout player can be, experienced fantasy owners know that avoiding busts can be even more crucial to their success. Steer clear of these guys in your draft this year:

Jacoby Ellsbury

Many owners have fond memories of Ellsbury. The outfielder was an absolute monster in 2011, hitting .321/.376/.522 with 32 homers, 39 steals and topping the century mark in both runs and RBIs. The sudden power spike predictably turned out to be fool's gold; Ellsbury has left the yard 36 times in the four seasons since. More troubling is that he's also seen his stolen based total decline from 52 to 21 during that time, and hit above .271 just once. His continued health issues and advancing age are the obvious culprits, and don't bode well for a rebound. Oh, and he posted the lowest contact rates of his career last season,

in terms of both quantity and

Christian Yelich

Yelich is only 24, and given his prospect pedigree and obvious physical gifts, it's easy to fall in love with his potential. He already hits for average, steals bases and shows a good grasp of the strike zone. He's also been astonishingly consistent for such a young player. If he could just tap into his pop, he'd be a true fantasy star. Alas, Yelich simply doesn't elevate the ball enough to expect a power surge; his 61.9 percent ground ball rate is the highest in baseball over the last three seasons. It's certainly possible to sacrifice contact for power (we saw this last year with Matt Carpenter), and doing so might make Yelich more valuable. But be careful not to overpay for adjustments he hasn't yet proven he can make.

Julio Teheran

Entering last season, Teheran was a fairly hot fantasy commodity. He'd just posted a 2.89 ERA and 1.08 WHIP in the season he turned 24, and most expected continued success. However, there were red flags.

He'd lost nearly 3 mph on his fastball since breaking into the majors in 2011, an alarming trend for any pitcher, but particularly for one ostensibly in his physical prime. Teheran's flyball-heavy profile seemed dangerous given this loss of velocity and the questionable

outfield defense behind him. While Teheran was indeed a disappointment in 2015, it didn't go exactly as one might have anticipated. He actually allowed more grounders than flies for the first time in his career, but continued to be vulnerable to the long ball. More surprisingly, his walk rate spiked by nearly 3 percentage points. The cause was fairly simple — hitters simply stopped chasing as much. Teheran's O-swing percentage fell from 33.2 percent to 28.7 percent.

Teheran did show some signs of improvement in the second half, as better pitch selection helped his strikeout rate rebound. His issues with limiting the free passes and homers persisted, however. With the Braves expected to be a doormat once again this season, wins will be tough to come by even if he can reverse troubling trends no sure thing.

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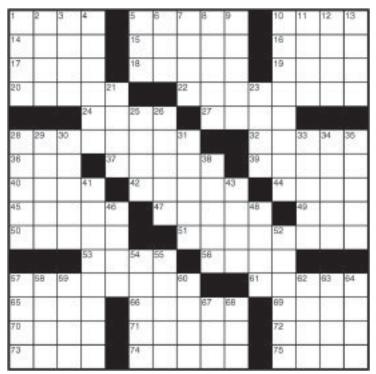
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Across

1 Copacetic

5 Shook, maybe

10 Long hairpiece

14 Novelist — Bagnold

15 Martini extra

16 Orchestra member

17 Hindu god of fire

18 Stair post

19 McEntire of C&W music

20 Della of pop

22 Full of air 24 Not the half — —

27 Just for guys 28 Plaza feature

32 Brake parts

36 Jackie's second

37 Drop a glass

39 Expose fangs 40 Flag waver?

42 "Cross of Gold" orator

44 Stick together

45 Made mention of

47 Vicunas' hangout

49 "- to Billie Joe"

50 Foul-up

51 Dry red wine 53 Shortage

56 Trunk possessor

57 Helen of Troy left him

61 Tightly curled

65 Fuel cartel

66 Sat opposite

metro.us /games

69 Singer — Hendryx

70 Sphagnum moss

71 Delight

72 Harm

73 Moray and conger

74 Food wrap

75 An evening out

Down

1 Cold feet

2 "Bus Stop" author

3 Diamond number

4 Phonograph inventor

5 — ton soup

6 Malt brew

7 Fuzzy fruit 8 Levels off

9 Blue pottery of Holland 10 Grazing 11 Drive the getaway

12 Earring site

13 Conduct

21 Salamanders 23 Highland youths

25 Poet's foot

26 Coronet

28 Spotted animals

29 Sky hunter

30 Utah mountain range

31 "Bye Bye Bye" band 33 Elegant shop

34 Rough

35 lcy rain

38 Set upon (2 wds.)

41 Turns aside

43 Corn Belt st.

46 Two-way

48 Go in search of

52 Curbed, with "in"

54 Tearooms

55 — Lumpur, Malaysia

57 Brood

58 Rapier 59 Shaquille O' -

60 Injury memento

62 Exploding star

63 Furrowed

64 Sturdy lock

67 Depot info

68 Cave, maybe

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easy

8					9	2	4	
	4	9	2		1	3	6	
							7	
		2	6	4				
4				5				8
				9	7	6		
	9							
	7	6	4		8	1	9	
	3	8	9					2

hard

	1					4		
		4	3	9			6	5
			2			8		
			4		9			8
6	9		8		5		1	4
5			7		3			
		9			2			
7	2			4	6	5		
		5					2	

metro.us/horoscopes



Aries Say what's on your mind, but don't feel the need to share personal information that could be used against you. Make special plans for two, relax and enjoy.



Taurus Listen to complaints made by children, friends or a co-worker. Protect your home and reputation. You'll gain satisfaction and respect if you help others.



Gemini You should plan a busy schedule and stick to it in order to avoid a run-in with someone looking for a fight. Overreacting will lead to discord.



Cancer Put a little added detail into whatever you do. Your uniqueness will make you stand out and will lead to an interesting proposal. Romance is looking good. Make plans for two.

Leo Don't stop short of what you want to



Your dedication and determination will capture plenty of interest. Virgo Look over your personal and financial investments and make sure that everything is in

order. Budget carefully to ensure that you get

achieve. Give an added push and strut your stuff.

the most for the least. Yesterday's answers



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Libra A positive change in a personal relationship or business partnership will develop if you are forthright about what you want and what you are willing to give.



Scorpio Get your personal priorities straight. An emotional situation will dampen your plans if you have neglected to include someone close to you.



Sagittarius Protect against misinterpretation or loss of reputation. Focus on positive and affordable changes that will improve your domestic



Capricorn Sharing your plans will enable you to see where you stand and if you are with someone who is interested in helping you pursue your dream.



Aquarius Bring anything that is troubling you to the forefront in order to resolve an issue swiftly, enabling you to move ahead with changes that will improve your emotional well-being.



Pisces Don't overdo it or exhaustion or injury is likely. Slow down and only do what you are capable of doing. Strive to keep your life simple.

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